



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 10, 2001

H.R. 400

A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home National Historic Site, and for other purposes

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on October 3, 2001

H.R. 400 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to purchase the site of Ronald Reagan's boyhood home in Dixon, Illinois, at its fair market value. Once the property is acquired, the Secretary would designate it as the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home National Historic Site. The National Park Service (NPS) would execute a cooperative agreement with the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home Foundation (the site's current owner), to operate the site. Within two years, the NPS, in consultation with the foundation, would develop a general management plan that would define the roles of the two parties in interpreting and preserving the site.

CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would cost the federal government about \$700,000 over the next two years, subject to appropriation of the necessary amounts. Based on available information on area property values, we estimate that the NPS would spend about \$400,000 of this amount to purchase the site from the foundation. (This nonprofit organization paid around \$30,000 for the former Reagan home in the early 1980s and has since invested several million dollars in the home and adjacent properties.) The remaining \$300,000 would be used to complete a general management plan for the site and develop interpretive materials. CBO further estimates that once the plan and cooperative agreement have been finalized, the NPS would spend between \$250,000 and \$500,000 annually to provide technical and financial assistance to the foundation, which would operate the historic site. The costs of this bill are based on information provided by the NPS and local tax authorities.

H.R. 400 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. The legislation contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.